

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 LOUREN 00331 102049Z

11

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10

LAB-06 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 DODE-00 PA-04 USIA-15

PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 NSC-07 DRC-01 /124 W

----- 112114

R 101435Z MAY 74

FM AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2518

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LOURENCO MARQUES 0331

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, ELAB, MZ

SUBJECT: COUP UNLEASHES LABOR DEMANDS

REF: LOURENCO MARQUES 330 (NOTAL)

1. SINCE COUP OF APRIL 25 MEDIA HAS CARRIED INCREASING NUMBER OF REPORTS ON LABOR DEMANDS FOR INCREASED WAGES, FRINGE BENEFITS, AND TRULY FREE, INDEPENDENT UNIONS. INCREASED LABOR FERMENT MAY HAVE PROMPTED IN PART GOVERNMENT'S ADMONITION THAT PROGRAM OF JUNTA OF NATIONAL SALVATION DOES NOT CONDONE DISRUPTION OF PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SERVICES AND MANY CLAIMS OF SOCIAL NATURE CAN ONLY BE SATISFIED BY SUBSEQUENT LEGISLATION UNDER PORTUGAL'S PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT (SEE REFTEL).

2. RECENT LABOR INCIDENTS, MOSTLY CONCENTRATED IN BEIRA, INCLUDE:

A. ON MAY 6, STRIKE BY STEVEDORES OF PORTS AND RAILWAYS ADMINISTRATION (CFM) IN PORT OF BEIRA, DEMANDING PAY EQUALITY WITH STEVEDORES IN LOURENCO MARQUES AND VARIOUS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 LOUREN 00331 102049Z

FRINGE BENEFITS. WORKERS RETURNED TO WORK AFTER CFM MANAGE-

MENT AGREED TO STUDY SALARY SCALES AND MAKE ANY SALARY ADJUSTMENTS RETROACTIVE TO FEBRUARY.

B. AFTER ONE-DAY STRIKE ON MAY 7, STEVEDORES OF EMPRESA PORTUGESA DE ESTIVADORES AND SOCIEDADE DE ESTIVADORES DE MOCAMBIQUE, FIRMS IN BEIRA, OBTAINED SALARY INCREASE.

C. STRIKE ON MORNING OF MAY 8 BY WORKERS OF FREIGHT FORWARDING COMPANIES (MANICA DE MOCAMBIQUE SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED) IN BEIRA DEMANDING 100 PERCENT WAGE INCREASE. THEY RETURNED TO WORK AFTER MANAGEMENT PROMISED TO STUDY REQUEST.

D. WORKERS OF BEIRA CITY HALL WENT ON STRIKE MAY 8 AND RETURNED TO WORK AFTER REPORTEDLY BEING PROMISED WAGE INCREASES OF AROUND 100 PERCENT.

E. ON MAY 8 POSTAL TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE (CTT) WORKERS SUBMITTED DEMANDS FOR WAGES INCREASES.

F. CIVIL SERVANTS MEETING ON MAY 8 IN LOURENCO MARQUES SENT MESSAGES TO JUNTA, EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR MOVEMENT OF ARMED FORCES, REQUESTING PURGING OF CIVIL SERVICE, EXPRESSING DISSATISFACTION WITH REOPENING OF NON-REPRESENTATIVE MOZAMBIQUE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, CALLING FOR URGENT CREATION OF FREE UNIONS FOR CIVIL SERVANTS, REQUESTING PERMISSION TO HOLD MEETINGS IN PUBLIC BUILDINGS AFTER WORK HOURS TO DISCUSS UNION-RELATED MATTERS, AND DEMANDING REPLACEMENT OF CURRENT LEGISLATION GOVERNING CIVIL SERVANTS IN OVERSEAS PROVINCES BY "CONTRACTUAL DIPLOMA" SAFEGUARDING BASIC RIGHTS, (25 SPECIFICALLY LISTED) TO BE UPDATED PERIODICALLY.

G. WORKERS AT SENA SUGAR'S MILL IN LUABO HAVE PRESENTED DEMANDS FOR WAGE INCREASES AND THREATENED TO TAKE OTHER APPROPRIATE MEASURES IF MANAGEMENT DOES NOT GIVE SATISFACTORY RESPONSE BY MAY 10. WORKERS WERE ANNOYED BY FACT THAT SENA SUGAR HAD ALREADY GIVEN SALARY INCREASE TO SKILLED TECHNICIANS AND EXECUTIVES, MOST OF WHOM ARE FOREIGN, BUT STIPULATED THAT WAGE INCREASES FOR UNSKILLED WORKERS, MOSTLY BLACK MOZAMBICANS, WOULD HAVE TO WAIT FOR HIGHER SUGAR PRICES.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 LOUREN 00331 102049Z

H. PRESENT LEADERSHIP OF BOTH ELECTRICIAN AND DRIVERS UNIONS HAVE NOBLY ANNOUNCED THEIR INTENTION TO RESIGN AND CALL NEW, FREE ELECTIONS BECAUSE THEY "WERE ELECTED BY SMALL GROUP OF PROFESSIONALS AND SUBJECTED TO APPROVAL OF GOVERNMENT".

3. COMMENT: AS WORKERS GROW ACCUSTOMED TO THEIR NEW

FREEDOMS, WE ARE APT TO SEE INCREASING AMOUNT OF LABOR
UNREST IN MOZAMBIQUE. TO DATE, MOST WORKERS HAVE BEEN
SATISFIED WITH PROMISES BY BOSSES TO ATTEMPT TO MEET DEMANDS

LATER; BUT IN FUTURE, THEY MAY NOT BE SO AMENABLE. IF
GOVERNMENT INTERVENES TO PREVENT DISRUPTION OF PUBLIC AND
PRIVATE SERVICES, POPULARITY OF NEW REGIME MAY BE ADVERSELY
AFFECTED.
VAN OSS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LABOR OBJECTIVES, WAGE RATES, LABOR UNIONS, LABOR STRIKES, FRINGE BENEFITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 MAY 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GarlanWA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974LOUREN00331
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740115-0740
From: LOURENCO MARQUES
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740558/aaaabzku.tel
Line Count: 124
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: LOURENCO MARQUES 330 (NOTAL)
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GarlanWA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <29 MAY 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <11 FEB 2003 by GarlanWA>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: COUP UNLEASHES LABOR DEMANDS
TAGS: PINT, ELAB, MZ
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005